Alice Springs police new headquarters

Alice Springs now has a state of the art police station with the completion of a $9 million revamp of the Greatorex Building that will better accommodate staff and centralise police operations.

Upgrades involved in this project include new police training, administration and executive areas, and a new fire protection and security system.

This modern facility has been welcomed by the 236 officers working in Alice Springs and gives local residents peace of mind that their safety is paramount.

Alice Springs Officer in Charge, Senior Sergeant Neil Hayes said, “Since the completion, many officers have had the opportunity to tour the building. They have all been extremely impressed by the design and finish and are now excited to be shortly moving in to what will be one of the premier police facilities in the Northern Territory.”

The project is both an investment in the local economy and an investment in community safety in Alice Springs.

Local businesses also benefitted from the revamp with the design of the refurbishment done by Alice Springs based firm Zone A Architects and construction work undertaken by local contractors, Asbuild, who employ 98 workers, including 26 Indigenous staff.
Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre gets major makeover

Alice Springs will soon have access to the latest youth training facilities and counselling services as part of a large scale $2.7 million redevelopment of the Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre (ASYCC).

The Northern Territory Government has been working in partnership with the ASYCC on an exciting redevelopment plan, with stages three and four to start this year.

The Alice Springs Youth and Community Centre multi-stage makeover will ensure the centre is a modern, vibrant space and an important part of the Alice Springs community for generations to come.

Stage one and two of the redevelopment involved health and safety upgrades and the construction of a gymnasium providing a new home for sports such as aikido, boxing and gymnastics.

Stage three involves upgrading the existing recreational centre to include a Youth Training and Activities Centre, while stage four will involve the construction of a new wellbeing centre to be leased to a youth counselling organisation.

The new building will be designed with the vision of providing multi professional health support services for youth.

Design work will start in early August with construction expected to start in early December to be finished around April next year.
ANZAC Spirit Study Tour - nominations now open

Year 9 and 10 students are encouraged to apply for a chance to win a trip of a lifetime to France as part of the Chief Minister’s Anzac Spirit Study Tour.

Three young Territorians will be selected as winners and in April 2016 will travel to France as representatives of the Northern Territory at the Villers-Bretonneux Anzac Day Dawn Service, along with one teacher and a chaperone from the Department of Defence.

In order to be eligible students are invited to submit an entry to their schools in any medium that addresses the question: *The Anzac Spirit arose from the actions of soldiers 100 years ago. Given their passing, what is it that keeps the Anzac Spirit alive?*

Students are required to submit their entries to their school by 14 August. The schools will then forward their top nominations from each eligible year to the Department of the Chief Minister.

A panel of representatives from the Northern Territory Government, Australian Defence and the RSL will then shortlist a group of finalists who will be interviewed by the panel.

For nomination forms and to see past entries visit [www.anzacspirit.nt.gov.au](http://www.anzacspirit.nt.gov.au)

Nominations are also welcome from Northern Territory teachers for the position of teacher-chaperone on the tour.
Applications now open for Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund

Businesses in Central Australia and the Barkly with innovative tourism products and projects are encouraged to apply for funding through the Territory Government’s new Tourism Infrastructure Development Fund.

The funding pool of $4.75 million will be used for strategic infrastructure projects and product development initiatives that will improve the visitor experience and help attract more visitors to the region and encourage them to stay longer.

Two types of grants will be offered under the new program:

- Small scale grants up to $30,000 aimed to support new or establishing tourism businesses;
- Large grants of between $30,000 and $100,000 which provide legacy benefits for a business or region.

There are a range of projects that could be funded including new technology to improve the tourism experience, value adding to existing experiences with new interactive signage, as well as new walking trails or visitor accommodation.

Grant guidelines, application forms and more information is available at www.tourismnt.com.au

Applications for the first round will be closing on 31 August.
Black spot gets a roundabout

Alice Springs motorists travelling through the intersection of Larapinta Drive and Lovegrove Drive will soon have a safer journey with fewer delays following the construction of a single lane roundabout.

Many local residents had raised concerns about the intersection and the potential for a serious accident.

The Northern Territory Government examined a number of options to address traffic issues in the area with the single lane roundabout the preferred solution to ensure a safer commute.

The design work is currently underway with construction expected to start by the end of the year and the project to be finished in early 2016.

This is a highly used corner and is now a priority project that is being fast tracked with $3 million set aside in the Budget to complete the intersection upgrade.
Captain starlight spreads magic in Central Australia

Captain Starlight returned to Central Australia last week to improve the wellbeing of children living in regional and remote areas.

The Starlight Children’s Foundation Outreach program, led by Captain Starlight, helps enhance kids’ healthcare experiences, encouraging healthy living practices through entertainment and play.

Sporting a silver cape, Captain Starlights are professionally trained to break down cultural barriers and connect with kids to make fun, joy and laughter the order of the day. The highly-skilled professional performers draw on their talents of dance, music and art to help entertain kids in remote communities across the Northern Territory, and ensure hospitalisation is more positive for kids and their families.

The Captain Starlights visited young patients in Alice Springs Hospital reaching children on the paediatric ward and in the Emergency Department. The Captains also travelled to Yuendumu with the Paediatric Outreach Team where they entertained children and their families waiting to see the medical team.

The Captains travel over 60,000 kilometres a year on planes, cars and ferries to reach many children living in remote parts the Northern Territory.
Centre events heating up!

The second half of the year will bring a feast of major festivals and sporting events to locals in the Centre and the Barkly Region with Alice Springs and Tennant Creek hosting a calendar full of exciting events to take part in!

Come along and soak up the festive atmosphere, and enjoy the warmer weather that is approaching.

Desert Harmony Festival, 31 July – 5 August
www.desertharmonyfestival.com

Old Timers Fete, 8 August

54th Henley on Todd Regatta, 15 August
henleyontodd.com.au

Adelaide United FC v Alice Springs All Stars, 19 August
www.sportandrecreation.nt.gov.au

The Redback MBT Race, 20 – 23 August

National Road Transport Hall of Fame Reunion, 25 – 31 August
www.roadtransporthall.com

Run Larapinta stage race, 27 – 30 August

Alice Desert Festival, 27 August – 6 September
www.alicedesertfestival.com.au

Red CentreNATS 3 – 6 September
www.redcentrenats.com.au

HKTC Alice Springs Open, 22 – 25 September

World Solar Challenge, 18 - 25 October
www.worldsolarschallenge.org
Uluru Kata-Tjuta National Park is an iconic part of Australia. The Uluru Board of Management is calling for Expressions of Interest for new tourism and commercial activities within the park.

You are invited to take advantage of a unique opportunity to invest in one of the world's most recognised locations.

If you have a big idea for an innovative and sustainable visitor experience or commercial activity within the park, the Uluru Board wants to hear it.

The Board are looking for fresh, exciting and engaging visitor experiences and commercial activities that complement existing operations.

You can be a part of showcasing this special place to the world, while protecting the park's natural and cultural values and benefiting the Anangu traditional owners.

The deadline for applications is **4pm Wednesday 30 September 2015.**

For more information visit [eoi.uluru.gov.au](http://eoi.uluru.gov.au)
Glass ban in National Parks

A new Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation by-law will protect visitor safety, with glass now banned in nine of Central Australia’s most visited waterholes.

Territorians and visitors to our parks and reserves will be able to enjoy themselves safely without the risk of injury by broken glass.

Plastic bottles are still allowed, but please remember to dispose of rubbish appropriately.

Signs at each of the designated waterholes will inform visitors of the restricted areas, with Rangers conducting regular patrols to remind people of the new rules.

**West MacDonnell National Park:**
Ormiston Gorge Waterhole, Ellery Creek Waterhole, Glen Helen Waterhole, Two Mile Waterhole, Birthday Waterhole, Owen Springs Reserve, Redbank Waterhole,

**Alice Springs Telegraph Station**
Wigley Waterhole

**Trephina Gorge Nature Park**
John Hayes Rockhole
Housing upgrades improving the lives of remote Territorians

The Northern Territory Government is committed to improving the lives of people living in the bush with $16 million worth of upgrades to over 180 houses in remote communities.

Work will start immediately in five communities; bringing the homes to a Remote Housing Provision standard. The work will include installing durable floor coverings, pantry lockers, basic storage and hard-wearing paintwork.

The work will be carried out by the Central Desert Council (Nyirripi) and the MacDonnell Regional Council (Areyonga, Kintore, Kaltukatjara and Mount Liebig)."

The homes are located in Areyonga (30), Kaltukatjara (Docker River) (46), Kintore (38), Mount Liebig (26), and Nyirripi (43).

Since the commencement of the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing and Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory, Indigenous employment has exceeded the target of 20 per cent, with achievement being 31 per cent (as at 31 March 2015).

The National Partnership Agreement on Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory provides funding to improve the durability and amenity of Remote Community Housing, thereby improving the longevity of dwellings.
Iconic Territory landmarks to be shown on Google Street View

Anyone around the world will soon be able to experience the wonders of the Territory’s most iconic landmarks first hand from their computer screens, tablet or mobile thanks to a partnership between the Northern Territory Government and Google.

Territory Government staff have been on the ground in recent weeks using the Google Trekker camera, taking panoramic photos as they walk through our famous and remote natural landmarks.

This is an exciting opportunity to showcase Central Australia’s most spectacular natural attractions like Uluru, The Rim Walk at Watarrka National Park, and the Larapinta Trail.

The imagery captured will be published on Google Maps next year – allowing tourists around the world to take a virtual trip to the Territory online and better plan a future holiday here.

The Street View Trekker is Google’s newest Street View camera platform and features a wearable backpack with a camera system on top. The camera has 15 lenses, each pointed in a different direction to create a 360-degree panoramic view.

Google Trekker footage allows viewers to go on a personalised virtual trek with the viewer deciding which path to take and which direction to look.
Improving community infrastructure for Central Australia

Local councils in Central Australia have received funding for key projects through the Northern Territory Government’s Special Purpose Grants and Family Safe Environment Fund for local government bodies and organisations. Grants have been awarded to assist councils with projects including:

- upgrades to park, sporting and recreational areas
- general infrastructure upgrades in remote communities
- purchase of plant and equipment that will improve core local government service delivery
- assistance with infrastructure projects where councils have committed funds
- protecting park lands and open spaces from vandalism and addressing antisocial behaviour.

Alice Springs Town Council will be supported to continue their innovation and excellence in waste management and recycling through purchasing a cardboard and paper waste baler and shed to house them in.

The community ovals at Docker River, Haasts Bluff, Imanpa, Mt Liebig and Finke will receive upgraded grandstands and shade structures and work will be carried out by local Aboriginal work crews.

The next round of grants will be called for in August, with organisations given four weeks to develop and submit their applications.
Indigenous Economic Development Forum – register now

The Northern Territory Indigenous Economic Development (IED) Forum is one of the largest Indigenous economic development specific events held in Australia.

Hosted by the Territory Government, the IED Forum is a key event held during October Business Month and will include a welcome reception, plenary sessions with keynote presentations, breakout sessions, scheduled private business meetings and an expo showcasing Indigenous businesses and services and programs.

This event will provide an opportunity for Indigenous businesses from across the Northern Territory to showcase their products and services to key stakeholders with a vested interest to progress Indigenous economic development.

**Welcome Reception:** 18 October from 6pm to 7:30 pm  
**Forum (2 days):** 19 to 20 October  
**Where:** Alice Springs Convention Centre, Alice Springs

For further information about the IED Forum including the cost to attend and how to register please visit [www.ied.nt.gov.au](http://www.ied.nt.gov.au) or contact the event managers, Agentur by email on iedforum@agentur.com.au or phone 8981 2010.
Innovative Training & Foundation Skills

A seven year service level agreement has been officially signed between the Northern Territory Government and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE).

BIITE will provide quality education and training for the Department of Corrections.

The successful partnership has recently seen 19 men in Alice Springs take part in Certificate I in Conservation and Land Management and Cert I in Foundation Skills. In addition 10 women are also completing Cert II in Family Wellbeing.

As part of the Conservation and Land Management (CLM) training, the students used basic machinery and equipment to further landscape the area outside the Conservation and Land Management building.

Lecturer Michael Walters said: 'The education and training programs provided the students with a strong focus and "hands on" landscaping work. I am pleased to see the commitment of the students in the project based learning, which included support from foundation skills trainers around written work.'
New service providing safe, culturally sensitive care in Tennant Creek

The opening of a new Community Based Children's Care Centre in Tennant Creek, will see a safe, culturally sensitive and developmentally appropriate emergency short term care option for the most vulnerable children and young people within in our community.

It is a short term facility (up to 12 weeks) for up to six children from new born babies through to 12 years of age.

This safe and secure local facility will deliver care within close proximity to community and family to help maintain close bonds and retain cultural ties.

The facility is part of the Northern Territory Government's reform of its Out-of-Home Care services, to better meet the needs of children in care.

The Territory Government has allocated $345,000 to redevelop this property and will contribute $1.14M p.a. to operate this invaluable service.

The service provider, Lifestyle Solutions will deliver the 24 hour residential care service in a safe, supportive and culturally secure environment working with children under the placement of the NT Government.

Lifestyle Solutions Managing Director, David Hogg said “we are committed to providing quality support to children and families in a culturally meaning environment.

"In this context, this support needs a commitment from us to the community and families of Tennant Creek to ensure we work closely together with them to keep children on country, safe and implement reunification strategies that ensure families are brought back together.”
New vision for Whittaker street

A new hotel and exhibition centre is at the heart of a new plan to transform a vacant site in Alice Springs.

The plan for Whittaker Street also includes new shops, restaurants, a plaza and transport interchange and promises to both create local jobs and attract more visitors to Alice.

The Territory Government wants to work with the private sector to revitalise the community and create new jobs in construction, tourism, accommodation and retail.

Expressions of interest in developing the two lots of land in Whittaker Street, were invited in December last year with Whittaker Street Developments selected as the preferred proponent to proceed to the next stage and will now begin detailed planning and commercial studies to realise the project.

Michael Sitzler of Whittaker Street Developments said the plan would create a 'uniquely Central Australian' destination for visitors.

"I am extremely excited to be given the opportunity to further develop my vision for this key site, in consultation with the Northern Territory Government, I am determined to see this happen," Mr Sitzler said.
Nominations open for NT's premier tourism awards

It's time to shine the spotlight on the great work of Northern Territory tourism operators with nominations now open for the Territory's premier tourism awards, the Brolgas.

The 29th Brolga Northern Territory Tourism Awards recognise and reward excellence in the NT tourism industry. The Brolgas encourage tourism business and operators to lift the bar and continue to deliver world-class attractions, facilities and experiences in the Territory.

The Brolgas are open to tourism operators, accommodation providers, festivals and events and industry suppliers.

There are 26 business categories this year, including a new category – Self Contained Accommodation, which has been introduced as a result of the increasing number of apartment style accommodation nationally.

Each Business Category winner at the Brolgas will win a marketing package valued at $10,000 with Tourism NT.

Entry to the Brolgas is free and Tourism NT also offers a free assistance program to help entrants with their submissions that includes mentoring and a "mock Judge" process.

Nominations for the Brolgas are open until 14 August, for more information and to enter go to: www.brolgaawards.com.au

Winners will be presented with their awards at the Brolgas gala event to be held at the Alice Springs Convention Centre on 21 November.
October Business Month – key note speakers announced

2015 is looking to be an exciting year for October Business Month (OBM) with the announcement of the keynote speakers.

Ruslan Kogan - The Kogan.com Story

Ruslan Kogan has come from extremely humble beginnings to become one of Australia’s most successful entrepreneurs. He is the founder and CEO of Kogan.com, which he has grown into a multinational consumer electronics and online retail business with millions of customers. In nine years, the company has gone from garage to global, becoming the most efficient retailer in the world. Ruslan will share his story to help inspire and inform current and budding business entrepreneurs.

ALICE SPRINGS

Date: 1/10, 7.00am – 9.00am
Venue: Alice Springs Convention Centre
Cost: Free
Book: from 31 August 2015

Naomi Simson - Live What You Love

We know her from Network TEN's Shark Tank as the 'Red Shark' but Naomi Simson has many labels: entrepreneur, author, blogger, innovator and a passionate individual to name a few. As an entrepreneur she founded one of Australia's tech success stories RedBalloon in 2001. From just an idea and persistence, RedBalloon has now served close to 3 million customers. Naomi will bring the core fundamentals from her bestselling book 'Live What You Love' and challenge the audience to look at what their purpose is; be that goal setting, completing projects, delivering on client's expectations or simply to be a well respected member of the team.

ALICE SPRINGS

Date: 7/10, 7.00am – 9.00am
Venue: Alice Springs Convention Centre
Cost: Free
Book: From 31 August 2015

Steven Bradbury - Passion, Persistence And Teamwork Leads To Success

Four-time Olympian, Gold medallist and businessman, Steven Bradbury brings a fresh and uniquely Australian feel to the corporate world. Having started and growing his own business, Revolutionary Boot Company (RBC), Steven talks from experience. Steven tells an amazingly inspirational story of triumph over adversity, of how he underwent years of obsessive training, pain, setbacks, sacrifice and life threatening injuries and of how he armed himself with the information and tools he needed to achieve his sporting and business success. Steven will be at both the Tennant Creek and Alice Springs events.

GALA BUSINESS DINNER, TENNANT CREEK

Date: 24/10, 6.30pm –
10.00pm
Venue: Eldorado Motor Inn
Cost: $65
Book: business.dob@nt.gov.au

ALICE SPRINGS

26/10, 9.00am –
The establishment of a tiny South American moth as the latest weapon against an invasive weed is showing signs of success in parts of the Northern Territory.

Department of Land Resource Management Director Weed Management Branch, Geraldine Lee, said the *Eueupithecia cisplatensis*, or "UU" for short, is an important part of an integrated control program to impact the spread of the highly invasive weed, parkinsonia.

"The Weed Management Branch has been rearing and releasing UU over the past two years" Ms Lee said.

Weeds Officers recently conducted a UU survey at five parkinsonia monitoring sites. Three main sites have so far shown success. The UU have survived both the wet and the dry season at Newcastle Waters and Birrindudu Stations in the Barkly region and in the Adelaide River catchment.

"At least six months has passed since the last UU release at these sites, so we are confident that UU has established there."

Further releases of UU are scheduled for July and August 2015.

The UU biocontrol agent works by eating the parkinsonia leaves, thus weakening the shrub and leaving it susceptible to disease. Once the plants become weakened, they also become more vulnerable to other control methods such as chemical use and physical removal.
Transport services improved in Alice Springs

Access to Alice Springs transport information is greatly improved thanks to 14 taxi and public transport bus stop totems being installed around Alice Springs.

The commercial passenger vehicle (CPV) totems will provide improved information on taxi, minibus and private hire car transport services.

Information displayed on the CPV totems include maps and braille signage advising of the rank location, as well as NT Police, CPV Network and Department of Transport telephone contact details.

There have been a total of 14 installed; eight taxi, three mini bus and three private hire car rank locations which include Alice Springs Airport and Lasseter's Casino.

Each totem includes a rank number, rank type and the location

The installation was undertaken by three local companies- Swel Engineering, TJ Signs and Diggaman Civil Contracting.

The CPV totems project was fully-funded by the Northern Territory Government.
The Northern Territory Government recently hosted an information day to help visitors from remote communities plan a trip to Alice Springs. The aim of the event was to inform visitors about things to remember when leaving country and what is acceptable behaviour in town. Information about the services available when staying in Alice Springs were also provided.

Agencies involved with the Northern Territory Government included: Alice Springs Town Council, Alice Springs Women's Shelter, Centrelink, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress, Tangentyere Council and St John Ambulance, Central Australian Health Service.
Warrego - Fossicking Area 4

The Department of Mines and Energy is helping provide opportunities for regional development through local employment and involvement in remediation activities. Work has just finished on completing safety work and installing signage at Warrego - Fossicking Area 4, just outside of the town by local Tennant Creek Company Remote Concrete.

The Legacy Mines Unit's Director Mining Remediation Mike Fawcett said the NT Government was helping to turn legacies and liabilities into opportunities and assets.

"Fossicking Area 4 was a priority to be completed and I'm pleased that the works have occurred as it is a popular area for fossickers.

"The work will include safeguarding a number of open shafts and installing signs at the fossicking area.

"We are looking at addressing some of the legacies of past mining activities in and around Tennant Creek and creating regional development opportunities for the local community," he said.

"There will be numerous tenders advertised in the coming year as the project is quite comprehensive and we hope to see local companies take advantage of the upcoming employment opportunities."

This project is part of an overall Legacy Mines Unit broader program in the region.
Wauchope flats seniors village

The Wauchope Flats complex, a public housing block in Alice Springs, will be transitioned to a managed senior’s village, with management to be outsourced to a suitable service provider through a Request for Proposal process. This will provide another great opportunity for a community housing provider to deliver services in Central Australia for five years, with an option to extend.

The complex will undergo upgrade works including fencing, signage, security lighting and footpath upgrades to ensure the complex is accessible for seniors, including those with disabilities.

The management will be modelled on the Elliott Street complex in Braitling, which was awarded to Central Australia Affordable Housing Company (CAAHC) in March. CAAHC manages the tenants, collects revenue from rent and undertakes repairs and maintenance to the properties.

The Wauchope Flats complex consists of 17 ground level units (3 x 1 bedroom and 14 x 2 bedrooms).

Upgrades will be done through panel contractors and Department of Corrections (for non-trade and smaller jobs). The upgrade work is expected to take six to eight weeks.

Request for Proposal documents and information can be found at www.housing.nt.gov.au
You can contact business.dob@nt.gov.au if you wish to make a booking for the Tennant Creek Gala Business Dinner. Registrations for all other events will open on 31 August.